



MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE NETWORK OF SOUTHEASTERN OHIO

The mission of the MBRN is to improve the quality of life for all minorities in Southeastern Ohio through economic growth.

President/CEO

ERNIE BYNUM, SR., Founder

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

This letter is a comment in favor of the proposed merger between T-Mobile USA and AT&T (11-65 proceeding). Thank you for the opportunity to provide input about this transaction.

The outcome of this merger would be access to reliable, high-speed broadband for over ninety-seven percent of Americans. Included in this number would be people who traditionally have had less access to advanced communications technology, like those in underserved, minority, or smaller communities. Increased access to wireless Internet service would benefit many communities, individuals, and businesses across the country, but it would have an especially positive effect on minority-owned businesses in our rural region. Although they have often had less access to the technology, members of minority communities use wireless services at higher rates than peers of other ethnic groups.

Wireless broadband is essential in this digital age, and it is especially vital for local economic development. This technology allows small or local businesses to compete alongside large businesses in markets around the world. Access to reliable, high-speed mobile broadband helps businesses to grow and expand, as well as to operate more efficiently. At the Minority Business Resource Network, we work to promote job creation, expansion, and economic strength for the purpose of improving quality of life for all minorities in Southeastern Ohio. This access would help us in our efforts by allowing us to offer more services and resources, which busy professionals and aspiring entrepreneurs can utilize while on the go.

Access to high-speed wireless broadband is vital for our nation, our economy, and our future. That's why President Obama recently identified universal broadband access as a key goal of his administration. This merger is a tremendous step towards that goal, and it can be achieved without using a cent of taxpayer money.

Sincerely,

Ernie Bynum 6-16-11
Ernie Bynum, Director